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World Production and Trade

United States
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Weekly
Roundup

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Oct. 3, 1984

The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture today reported the following developments in world agriculture and trade:

GRAIN AND FEED

In the SOVIET UNION, the most recent harvest progress report stated that as of September 24, some 101.2 million hectares of small grains and pulses had been cut. This compares with 107.8 million cut by September 26 last year and 109.3 million by Sept. 27, 1982. The report stated that significant amounts of grain had not been harvested in several specific areas and that 15 percent of the crop in the RSFSR--the largest republic in the Soviet Union--was still standing. The corn area harvested for grain as of September 24 was given as 1,052,000 hectares, compared with 1.9 million hectares a year ago. USDA currently estimates the harvested area for small grains and pulses in the USSR this year will be 115.7 million hectares and 4.3 million hectares of corn for grain.

Total grain production in the UNITED KINGDOM for 1984/85 is estimated at a record 26.14 million tons, 22 percent above last year's harvest, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in London. Wheat production is estimated at a record 14.8 million tons, 36 percent above last year's previous record harvest, while coarse grain production is forecast at 11.34 million, an increase of 5 percent from 1983/84. The barley crop is forecast at 10.8 million tons, an increase of 8 percent from the 1983/84 harvest. Ideal growing conditions and the use of higher yielding wheat varieties are the primary factors for the increase in production. Average wheat yield for 1984/85 is estimated at a record 7.53 tons a hectare, 17 percent above last year's record. In 1984/85, the average barley yield climbed to a record 5.49 tons a hectare, 11 percent above the previous high set in 1982/83.

Total grain production in SPAIN for 1984/85 is estimated at a record 20.3 million tons, an increase of 49 percent from last year's drought-reduced crop, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Madrid. Wheat production is estimated at an all time high of 6.1 million tons, up 42 percent from last year and 37 percent above the preceding five-year average. Coarse grain production is estimated at a record 13.9 million tons, an increase of 51 percent from last year and 49 percent above the 1979-1983 average. Ideal weather conditions boosted grain yields to record highs. The average wheat yield is estimated at a record 2.57 tons a hectare, 15 percent above the previous high in 1980/81; and the average coarse grain yield is estimated at 2.75 tons a hectare, 7 percent above the previous record in 1980/81.

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SWEDEN's total grain crop for 1984/85 is estimated at a record 7.06 million tons, 30 percent above last year's crop, according to the U.S. agricultural attache in Stockholm. Wheat production is estimated at 1.80 million tons, 4 percent above 1983/84, while coarse grain production is estimated at a record 5.26 million tons, 43 percent above 1983/84. Favorable weather during the growing season produced record grain yields. The average wheat yield for 1984/85 is estimated at 5.75 tons a hectare, 9 percent above the previous high; and the average coarse grain yield is estimated at 4.41 tons a hectare, 21 percent over the previous high attained in 1981/82.

DENMARK's 1984/85 total grain crop is estimated at a record 8.87 million tons, an increase of 38 percent from last year's harvest and up 11 percent from the previous record crop harvested in 1982/83, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Copenhagen. Wheat production is estimated at a record 2.25 million tons, up 42 percent from last year, while coarse grain production is estimated at 6.62 million, an increase of 36 percent from 1983/84. Barley output is measured at 5.93 million tons, 33 percent above last year. Ideal weather plus a shift to higher yielding winter wheats combined to produce a record average wheat yield of 7.40 tons a hectare, 10 percent above the previous high in 1982/83. Average barley yield is estimated at a record 4.80 tons a hectare, an increase of 12 percent from the previous record high achieved in 1982/83.

OILSEEDS AND PRODUCTS

SPAIN's olive oil crop is estimated at near record level because of an upswing in the olive bearing cycle and favorable growing conditions, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Madrid. Favorable weather, along with increased plantings, also should help produce a record sunflowerseed crop. Despite prospects for large domestic oilseed supplies, Spain's soybean imports for 1983/84 are expected to reach 3.0 million tons, slightly less than in 1982/83. Soybean meal consumption remains depressed in 1983/84, but exports could reach 580,000 tons, compared with 482,000 tons in 1982/83. Soybean oil exports are expected to rise 20 percent in 1983/84, reaching a level of 500,000 tons. Spanish soybean oil consumption remains capped at the 90,000-ton quota level. Exports of soybean meal and soybean oil are expected to be lower in 1984/85.

DAIRY, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

Meat production in the SOVIET UNION was a record 16,450,800 tons in 1983, according to the data just released in the official 1983 statistical yearbook. The preliminary figure, issued earlier this year, was 16.0 million tons. The revised meat production figures, with comparisons for previous years, are as follows in million tons:

	1981	1982	1983
Total Meat	15.2	15.4	16.4
Beef and Veal	6.6	6.6	7.0
Pork	5.2	5.3	5.8
Lamb and Mutton	0.9	0.8	0.8
Poultry	2.3	2.4	2.6
Other	0.2	0.3	0.2

COTTON AND FIBERS

COLOMBIA's 1984/85 cotton crop is estimated at 551,000 bales, up 56 percent from last year's crop of 352,000 bales, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Bogota. The rise is due to an increase in area and expected higher yields. Favorable support prices and export subsidies have encouraged farmers to expand cotton production. The progress of the Costa-mata crop, which is now being planted, will have to be watched closely. Restrictions on imports of herbicides and insecticides could affect production adversely.

SPAIN's 1984/85 cotton crop is estimated at 276,000 bales, 82 percent above last year's drought-reduced crop of 152,000 bales, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Madrid. Larger output is anticipated due to an increase in area and higher yields, as well as the attractive support prices and the generous financial aid program available to growers under the government's new five-year cotton acreage expansion program.

SYRIA's 1984/85 cotton crop is estimated at 820,000 bales, 8 percent below last year's record crop of 890,000 bales, according to the U.S. agricultural attache in Damascus. Unfavorable weather conditions--rain and low temperatures--at planting resulted in "damping off," while wind and sand storms in August further reduced yield prospects. The crop is normally harvested from September to November.

COFFEE, TEA AND COCOA

WORLD cocoa bean production for 1984/85 (October-September) is forecast at a record 1.74 million tons, 14 percent more than last year and 1 percent above the previous record set in 1981/82. Efforts by several key countries to expand cocoa production during recent years are likely to increase output in the upcoming season. Some countries have relied on improving productivity through better management practices and expanding planted area with high-yielding, disease-resistant varieties. Other countries have been concentrating on rapid propagation of desired cocoa strains. These factors, in addition to improved weather in some major producing countries and relatively higher prices, account for the large expected output.

WEST AFRICA's cocoa bean production, which accounts for about 56 percent of the world total, is expected to total 967,700 tons, a 12-percent increase over last year, but 6 percent less than the 1981/82 record. In the Ivory Coast, favorable weather conditions since March benefitted pod development and contributed to a higher than expected mid crop (1983/84 season) and continued optimism for the 1984/85 campaign. In 1983, 6,186 hectares of hybrid cocoa were planted, but the government does not intend to put additional areas under cultivation. Instead, the focus is now on improving productivity of existing plantations. The government implemented higher producer prices in October 1983.

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In NIGERIA, the 1984/85 cocoa bean season looks promising, after a sharp downturn in 1983/84, with most farms showing good maintenance. Cocoa farmers' input supplies, including chemicals, are considerably improved from a year ago. Nigeria is expecting to harvest 660,000 hectares in 1984/85, 5,000 more than the previous year.

In CAMEROON, cocoa production took a slight upturn in 1983/84, following several years of decline caused by aging trees, delays in paying growers, late delivery, insufficient inputs and a severe drought in both 1982 and 1983. For the 1984/85 season, rains have begun on time; inputs have generally been in good supply; and a full support system, providing seed, inputs, technical assistance and road construction to growers, is available in practically every producing area.

SOUTH AMERICA's cocoa production is projected to be 18 percent higher than last year. In Brazil, output is forecast to increase 20 percent to a new high of 360,000 tons. Attractive cocoa prices have led most growers to improve management practices for the upcoming (main) crop, despite costly credit and the higher cost of fertilizers and pesticides. Ecuadorean 1984/85 output is forecast at 60,000 tons, 20 percent above last year's weather-reduced crop.

Cocoa production in ASIA is forecast to rise 20 percent over last year, mainly due to a sharp increase in Malaysian production. Barring any major adverse weather conditions, Maylasia is expecting sharp gains over the record 1983/84 harvest. The projected increase in output reflects a greater area of cocoa coming into production and more trees reaching peak production age.

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Cocoa bean production for major countries and regions during the October-September crop year is estimated as follows in 1,000 tons:

Country/Region	1983/84	1984/85
Africa:		
Ivory Coast 1/	415.0	450.0
Ghana	158.0	185.0
Nigeria	125.0	160.0
Cameroon	108.0	115.0
Other	55.0	57.7
Total	861.0	967.7
South America:		
Brazil	300.0	360.0
Ecuador	50.0	60.0
Colombia	40.5	41.5
Other	24.6	27.6
Total	415.1	489.1
Central American/Caribbean:		
Mexico	38.0	40.0
Dominican Republic	41.5	43.5
Other	16.4	17.4
Total	95.9	100.9
Asia/Oceania:		
Malaysia	91.0	120.0
Papua-New Guinea	30.0	30.0
Other	30.8	32.8
Total	151.8	182.8
World Total	1,523.8	1,740.5

1/ Includes marketings from Ghana.

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Selected International Prices

Item	: Sept. 25, 1984		: Change from : A year	
	: : previous week : ago			
ROTTERDAM PRICES 1/	\$ per MT	\$ per bu.	\$ per MT	\$ per MT
Wheat:				
Canadian No. 1 CWRS-13.5%.	188.50	5.13	+2.50	212.00
U.S. No. 2 DNS/NS: 14%....	174.00	4.74	+5.00	183.00
U.S. No. 2 S.R.W.	157.50	4.29	-0-	151.00
U.S. No. 3 H.A.D.....	182.50	4.97	-1.00	210.00
Canadian No. 1 A: Durum...	208.00	5.66	+4.50	220.00
Feed grains:				
U.S. No. 3 Yellow Corn....	133.75	3.40	-5.25	158.25
Soybeans and meal:				
U.S. No. 2 Yellow.....	236.50	6.44	-.50	330.50
Brazil 47/48% SoyaPellets	174.00	--	-3.00	289.00
U.S. 44% Soybean Meal....	162.00	--	-6.00	267.00
U.S. FARM PRICES 3/				
Wheat.....	125.65	3.42	+1.47	130.06
Barley.....	84.05	1.83	+1.84	99.21
Corn.....	108.66	2.76	-3.94	133.46
Sorghum.....	92.15	4.18 6/	-3.75	119.05
Broilers 4/.....	1096.57	--	-25.13	1005.52
EC IMPORT LEVIES				
Wheat 5/.....	44.65	1.22	-.95	78.20
Barley.....	45.30	.99	-2.10	53.40
Corn.....	36.25	.92	.60	40.45
Sorghum.....	58.25	1.48	.10	49.00
Broilers 4/ 6/ 8/.....	159.00	--	-6.00	252.00
EC INTERVENTION PRICES 7/				
Common wheat(feed quality)	136.10	3.70	-3.90	165.50
Bread wheat (min. quality)7/	145.45	3.96	-4.15	182.00
Barley and all				
other feed grains.....	136.10	--	-3.90	165.50
Broilers 4/ 6/.....	1079.00	--	+21.00	1119.00
EC EXPORT RESTITUTIONS (subsidies)				
Wheat	N.A.	--	--	N.A.
Barley.....	17.75	.39	1.80	17.10
Broilers 4/ 6/ 8/.....	94.00	--	-3.00	194.00

1/ Asking prices in U.S. dollars for imported grain and soybeans, c.i.f., Rotterdam. 2/ Hundredweight (CWT). 3/ Twelve-city average, wholesale weighted average. 4/ EC category--70 percent whole chicken. 5/ Reflects lower EC export subsidy--down to 20.000 ECU/100 bag effective 9/14/83 from 22.50 ECU/100 bag set in 2/83. 6/ F.o.b. price for R.T.C. broilers at West German border. 7/ Reference price. 8/Reflects exchange rate change and not level set by EC.
N.Q.=Not quoted. N.A.=None authorized. Note: Basis October delivery.

Do you need information about

- Overseas markets and buying trends?
- New competitors and products?
- Trade policy developments?
- Overseas promotional activities?

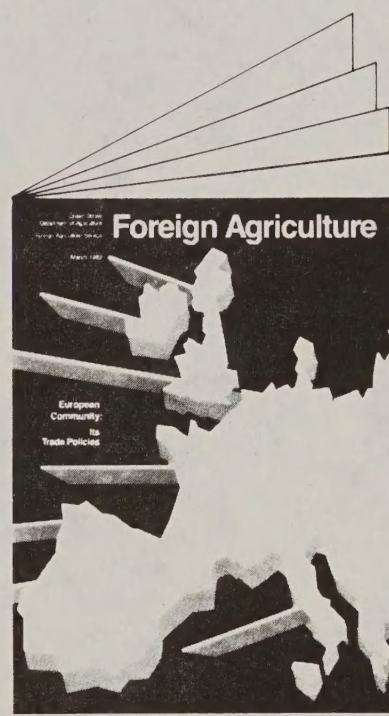
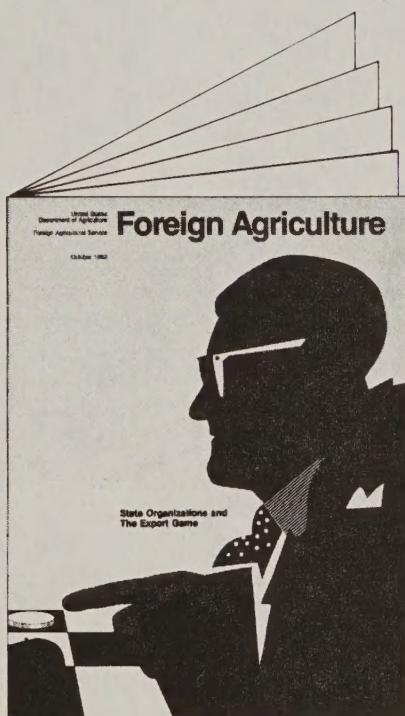
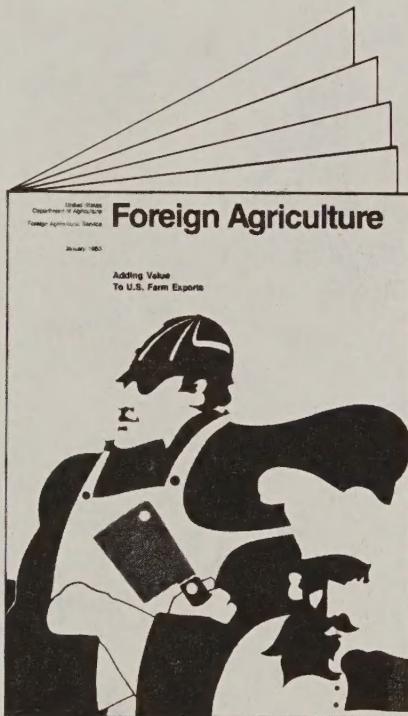
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